

Meeting Date: 09/16/08

# AGENDA REPORT

Agenda Item # SB

City of Santa Clara, California



**Date:** September 8, 2008

**To:** City Manager for Council Information

**From:** Chief of Police


**Subject:** Special Order of Business: Award of Police Department Certificate of Appreciation

A basic tenet of Community Oriented Policing is that crimes are solved more frequently when the police department includes the community in its crime fighting strategy. A clear example of this occurred recently when two City employees joined together to locate a felony hit and run suspect.


On the evening of August 9, 2008, two women were struck while crossing Stevens Creek Blvd. at Cypress Avenue. The vehicle that struck them not only did not stop to render aid but, in fact, dragged one of the victims a significant distance. The driver then fled the scene. Unfortunately, both women, who were in their 70's, died from their injuries. As part of the investigation conducted by the Santa Clara Police Department a description of the suspect's vehicle and license plate was released to the local media.

On Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, just thirty-eight hours after the fatal collision, City Library employee Carolyn Parham read that media release. She recognized the name of the suspect and brought this to the attention of City Librarian Karen Saunders. Karen also recognized the suspect's name from a contact she had had with him just the week before. Thinking it was possible that the suspect may return to the Central Library, Karen looked throughout the Library until she saw a person she thought resembled the suspect. Karen and Carolyn then went to the Library underground parking lot where they located the suspect's vehicle. They returned to the Library office and called the Police. Officer Tom Leipelt arrived within moments and located the suspect in the computer area. The suspect was taken into custody without incident.

In recognition of the assistance Carolyn Parham and Karen Saunders rendered to the Police Department in locating this dangerous felon, they are awarded the Police Department's Certificate of Appreciation.

  
Stephen D. Lodge  
Chief of Police

APPROVED:

  
Jennifer Sparacino  
City Manager

**Documents Related to this Report:** None

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